

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235484

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: DEPUTY STR YEUTTER STATEMENT IN URUGUAY

REFTEL: CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 7292

1. DURING RECENTLY COMPLETED LATIN AMERICAN TRIP, DEPUTY STR DISCUSSED A DOZEN OR MORE MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE MTN ON A UNIFORM BASIS WITHOUT EMPHASIS ON ANY PARTICULAR SUBJECT. MORE TIME WAS GENERALLY SPENT ON TARIFFS, TROPICAL PRODUCTS, GATT REFORM AS WELL AS SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LDC'S. AMONG THE OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED WAS AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH BOTH THE U.S. AND THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE A GREAT MUTUALITY OF INTEREST IN SEEKING LIBERALIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE RESTRAINTS NOT ONLY IN EUROPE BUT ALSO IN OTHER IMPORTING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

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2. UNKNOWN TO U.S. DEL, A REPORTER WAS IN THE ROOM DURING

DISCUSSIONS IN URUGUAY. THUS, COMMENTS MADE IN A CONFIDENTIAL MANNER WERE TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT AND MADE PUBLIC. THE CLEARLY FACETIOUS REMARK COMPARING TRADE PROBLEMS WITH THE EC AND WITH USSR WAS CLEARLY MADE IN JEST. NO ONE PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING TOOK THE COMMENT SERIOUSLY.

3. IF FRENCH DEMARCHE IS MADE, WE WOULD SEE THIS AS

MAKING A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MOLEHILL. USG RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO DEAL CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH THE EC IN THE MTN; REQUIRING A RELATIONSHIP OF COOPERATION, MUTUAL RESPECT AND CONSTRUCTIVE JOINT EFFORTS. HABIB

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